

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1381

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Representative Joe Fowlkes on his meritorious service as a member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this Body should recognize those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion and whose efforts to excel have brought substantial benefits to their respective communities and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Joe Fowlkes's illustrious career in the House of Representatives will come to an end at the adjournment sine die of the 104th General Assembly, as he has announced his retirement from this august Body; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fowlkes has for many years been a prominent and highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of Giles and Marshall Counties, and he has served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, in November of 1990, the good people of House District 65 evinced their great faith in the political and governmental capabilities of Joe Fowlkes by electing him as their representative to the House of Representatives, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, during his eight terms and sixteen years in the House of Representatives, Representative Fowlkes has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a highly respected attorney, Representative Fowlkes is a dynamic and aggressive participant in the legislative process and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues for the outstanding contributions he has made as Chairman of the

House Judiciary Committee; he also serves as a member of the House Transportation Committee, the House Calendar and Rules Committee, the House Public Safety and Rural Roads Subcommittee, and the Joint Select Committee on Children and Youth, which he formerly chaired; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of citizenship, Representative Joe Fowlkes has served as a valuable member of many civic, professional and governmental organizations, including the Giles County and Tennessee Bar Associations, Tennessee Municipal Attorneys Association, Pulaski Lions Club, Marshall County and Giles County Chambers of Commerce, and Giles County Vocational Education Advisory Committee; he has also served as a Board member of Giles County Senior Citizens, South Central Tennessee Human Resource Agency, Tennessee Historical Society, Tennessee Children's Home in Spring Hill, Tennessee State Employees Association, and the South Central Tennessee Development District; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean born in Nashville on October 7, 1948, Representative Fowlkes attended David Lipscomb University and is a 1970 graduate of Middle Tennessee State University; he received his Doctorate of Jurisprudence in 1974 from the University of Tennessee College of Law; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Joe Fowlkes is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife; they are the proud parents of three devoted children; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fowlkes's announcement of his retirement from the General Assembly has greatly disappointed and disconcerted his fellow lawmakers, and his considerable talents and energies will be sorely missed by the good people of House District 65; and

WHEREAS, this Body finds it appropriate to bid farewell to our friend and colleague, Representative Joe Fowlkes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Representative Joe Fowlkes on his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of House District 65.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend to Joe Fowlkes our best wishes for much success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Representative Joe Fowlkes as a token of our esteem.